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THOMSON FINANCIAL



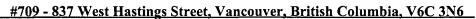
FORM 6-K SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

> Report of Foreign Private Issuer Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the month of JANUARY, 2002

IMA Exploration Inc. (Translation of registrant s name into English)

> <u>0-30464</u> (SEC File Number)



(Address of principal executive offices)

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•	eck mark whether the registrant	t files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F
or Form 40-F.	Form 20-F X	Form 40-F
is also thereby furnishing	ng the information to the Comr	nt by furnishing the information contained in this Form mission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934	Yes	NoX
If "Yes" is man 12g3-2(b): 82		mber assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule
	SIGNA	ATURES
	-	s Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused ned, thereunto duly authorized.
		IMA Exploration Inc. (Registrant)
Date January 18, 2	002	By /s/ William Lee (Signature)*
		Name: William Lee

^{*}Print the name and title of the signing officer under his signature.





Suite 709 - 837 West Hastings Street Terminal City Club Tower, Vancouver, B.C. V6C 3N6 tel: (604) 687-1828 • fax: (604) 687-1858 • toll free: 1-800-901-0058 Internet: www.imaexploration.com • e-mail: info@imaexploration.com

January 18, 2002

CDNX SYMBOL: IMR

NEWS RELEASE

IMA Completes \$1,026,000 Private Placement Financing

IMA Exploration Inc. is pleased to announce that the Company has received the funds required to complete the recently announced \$0.38 non-brokered private placement and is proceeding with the mandatory regulatory filing. The Prudent Bear Fund, of Dallas, Texas, purchased the outstanding 637,000 units in the second tranche, bringing its total to 1,637,000 units. Total finders' fees payable on this financing include \$82,080 (\$50,555 already paid) and 270,000 share purchase warrants (206,300 already issued).

These funds will be used to help finance the Company's exploration programs in Peru and for general working capital. As the Company has filed its Annual Information Form, the shares issued above are subject to a four month hold period.

The above private placement is subject to acceptance for filing by the Canadian Venture Exchange.

IMA Exploration Inc. continues to seek new exploration opportunities through its extensive contact base to add to its strategic land position, which has attracted several major mining companies, including our joint venture partner in Argentina, Barrick Gold Corp.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD

"William Lee"

Mr. William Lee, Chief Financial Officer

For further information please contact Joseph Grosso, President & CEO, or Sean Hurd, Investor Relations Manager, at 1-800-901-0058 or 604-687-1828, or fax 604-687-1858, or by email info@imaexploration.com, or visit the Company's web site at http://www.imaexploration.com.

The Canadian Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or the accuracy of this release.

Cautionary Note to US Investors: This news release may contain information about adjacent properties on which we have no right to explore or mine. We advise U.S. investors that the SEC's mining guidelines strictly prohibit information of this type in documents filed with the SEC. U.S. investors are cautioned that mineral deposits on adjacent properties are not indicative of mineral deposits on our properties.

This news release may contain forward-looking statements including but not limited to comments regarding the timing and content of upcoming work programs, geological interpretations, receipt of property titles, potential mineral recovery processes, etc. Forward-looking statements address future events and conditions and therefore involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ materially from those currently anticipated in such statements.

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